MINUTES OF THE MAY 9TH, 2018, FRANKLIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING

The Franklin County Economic Development Commission met on May 9, 2018, at 4:p.m. in room 102 of the Government Center.

Those present were: Bill Schirmer, Tim Ripperger, John Palmer, Grant Reeves, Sandy Hill, and Sara Duffy.

Bill called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. John made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Tim seconded the motion and it carried.

Proper use of EDIT money was briefly discussed. Bill said he would follow up on this.

Business cards for John were discussed. It was decided to let Nick Lawrence handle this.

In regard to the round table meeting with local entities: Nick has drafted a letter and it has been sent. The process is in play.

A conference table for the office was discussed. \$1000 from the Printing and Advertising line of the budget will be moved to create a new line item for equipment. These are in a different series from each other so an approval needs to be given from County Council for the transfer of funds. John made a motion to do the transfer of funds and Tim seconded. The motion carried.

The next topic was TIF. All members were given an explanatory copy of the existing and possible new parcels as drafted by Nick. Bill had attended a previous Commissioners' meeting to talk about a new ribbon TIF district. They agreed to go ahead with this. All commercial property parcels should receive a letter fully informing the owners of this TIF district. This is a consent process. This action should be a Redevelopment Committee process. EDC will recommend to Redevelopment whether or not to run the TIF as a ribbon down US 52 from the Golden Road TIF whereby using incorporated businesses. However, after reviewing the list of parcels, it was decided to verify the accuracy of the information on hand. Tim will look at the town of Brookville parcel numbers. Nick needs to figure out what parcels are actually zoned. He may need to check with Area Plan. A motion was made by John to recommend to Redevelopment to consider including the highlighted areas on page 3 of the handout as possible ribbon TIF parcels and address any corrections as needed. Tim seconded the motion. All in favor of motion, but Bill did abstain since he owns property in the area. Motion carried.

John had a question about whether information existed concerning anything conducive to bringing economic development to the community, both positive and negative. He questioned what we may need to do to get this in process. How can we use our existing assets to attract and support new business? Have we looked at this before? John would be willing to look into this to improve economic development and local businesses. One thought was Agri-tourism. We need to envision this. Our Strategic Plan would address this topic. Sara Duffy had questions: She wanted to know if the media would be invited to the round table discussion meeting. Answer was no; it is not considered a public meeting. She asked if the Hotel information would be released. This would be a tourism issue since their involvement is greater than EDC. She asked if agriculture parcels are included in the ribbon TIF district. Legally yes, but there is no advantage to including agriculture properties for anyone. She commented that possibly a table the same size as the existing table could be procured and cover it with a tablecloth.

John made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Tim seconded. Motion carried.

William Schirmer

Tim Ripperger

John Palmer